

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This is intended to be a complete response to the official action mailed February 25, 2004 in which claims 1-22 were rejected. New claims 23-64 have been added.

DOUBLE PATENTING

Claims 1-22 stand rejected under the judicially-created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 4 and 5 of U.S. Patent No. 5,829,194.

Applicant submits herewith a terminal disclaimer over U.S. 5,829,194, thereby mooting the rejection.

New Claims

New claims 23-32 depend from claims 1, 4, 8, 10, 13, 17, 18, 20, 21 and 22, respectively. Each is enabled and supported in ¶ 0042 of the original specification and therefore do not constitute new matter.

New claims 33, 37, 42, 45, 49, 54, 56, 59, 61 and 63 are like original claims 1, 4, 8, 10, 13, 17, 18, 20, 21 and 22, respectively, except the material is described as being constructed of a layer of cloth and a layer of polymeric film which are "connected" rather than "laminated".

Claims 34, 35, 38-40, 43, 46, 47, 50-52 and 57 are like original claims 2, 3, 5-7, 9, 11, 12, 14-16 and 19, respectively. New claims 36, 41, 44, 48, 53, 55, 58, 60, 62 and 64 are like new claims 23-32, respectively.

Conclusion

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are now in a condition for allowance and requests issuance of a Notice of Allowance thereof.

Respectfully submitted,



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